THE BISHOPS MITTIMVS

to goe to Bedlam.

Vpon their accusation of high Treason by the Parliament for making their petition and protestation to his Majesty against the proceedings of the same.

VVherein is shewed the principall causes of their distraction and the evill effects of this their distemper *Anno.* 1641.

VVith a charg to the Master VVarders, and Keepers of the prison for to use their best meanes to recover their wits again.

LONDON,
Printed for *I. W.* in the yeare 1641.

THE Bishops Mittimus for Bedlam Anno. twenty nine of *December.*

THe Bishops have verified the common Proverbe, to much money makes men mad, and to much ease and security joyned with plenty and society is the first Originall of pride, avarice, Luxvrie and laciviousnesse, and being repleniſhed asmuch with theſe foule defects, nay enormities, as with wealth, they have now no longer place for vertue, piety, and godlinesse to reside with them, and having by this meanes forsaken the pathes of righteousnesse, Iustice and uprightnesse, thereby provoking divine Iustice, to leave them to themselves and their owne inventions, they ioyne themselves to the Divell, become his instruments to commit all manner of wickednesse, and villany, to practise Tyranny over Gods heritage as they are Governours to Innovate religion, as they are teachers to usurpe Temporall Iurisdiction to themselves, over the persons, lives and estates of the Kings good Subiects, their function and offices being onely

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ously spirituall by this their power in there unlawfull Courts of Inquisition, high Commission I would haue said (*Camera Stellata*) ordinaries and other their Courts of oppression) to prosecute good men by finding imprisoning Banishment under his Majesties name, (so presumptious is pride, to set forth lawes of their owne devising, Books of liberty, and unlawfull, and vitious sporting on the Lords day, increasing thereby Prophannesse, sweating, drunkennesse, whoredome and adultery, heynous, and crying Synues, that his Maiesties people being left thus to themselves and laid open as it were to all suggestions and temptations of the divell, as may be the readier, and willinger to joyne with them, their governours, instructors and teachers; to act any designe against the Religion, and lawes of this Kingdom, to admit of Idolatry, Superstition, and Romish Ceremonies to ioyne with Anti christ the *Pope*, the originall and first beginning thereof. And when thus the hearts of licivious, and pernicious people be thus framed to their desires, then dare they presume to attempt the seducing of his Maiesty in his Religion, to take dislike in some things therein, that it is not so glorious in outward appearance, as the Church of *Rome*, not decked with such ornaments, not attended with such grave and learned Bishops, not so powerfull, not having both the Magistrate and Ministers authority, aswell the sword of justice, as of the word and spirit of God (wee are altogether spirituall) not so many necessary ceremonies, as bowing cringing, creeping, standing up at *Gloria patri*

kneeling

kneeling at the receiving the enchariſt, whereby wee give more reverence, and holy reſpect to Chriſt and our religion, hereby inducing his Majeſty to give firſt a toleration of the Romiſh religion.

Secondly, to admit of certaine ceremonies indifferent to be uſed before named.

Thirdly to ioyne with the Church of *Rome*, that it is a true Church, doth not erre in fundamentall points of doctrine, that the Pope is not Anti-chriſt, and the like which they have attained. They now labour with his Majeſties counſell, to draw them likewiſe to favour their deſignes, or the moſt of them; and thoſe they cannot to procure their removeall; or by undue meanes; compell their aſſent to their practiſes, having now prevailed thus farre, and all things ſucceed according to their deſires, then deviſe they how to draw to their part the judges of the land, to that purpoſe they call in queſtion their proceedings in their ſeverall courts, for their granting ſo many Prohibitions, to hinder troubleſome and vexations ſuite in their illegall courts, having prevailed in this, they propound queſtions of the Kings prerogative, in leavying ſhip-money, raiſing of illegall taxes on the Kings good Subjects, to enrich their owne coffers, under pretence of releiving the Kings neceſſity; for money, who I perſwade my ſelfe have had very little thereof, now *England* being the moſt part thereof, at their beck, and perceiving theſe their practiſes are againſt the fundamentall lawes of the land, againſt religion eſtabliſhed in this

Kingdome,

Kingdome againſt the rights and very being of Parliaments, and fearing if ever a Parliament ſhould be called they ſhould for theſe thinges be queſtioned, they indeavour to prevent the ſame.

1. By endeavouring to innovate religion in *Scotland*, which being rejected more, the King by Proclamations, and edicts, to command their obedience to the Biſhops which yet refuſed, and covenanted againſt procure actuall warre, to be leavyed againſt that Kingdome, whereby this Kingdome being buſily imployed in that deſigne, the ſtate thereof may not have leaſure to think of a Parliament.

2. By procureing the Iudges to give forth their opinions the ſhippmoney is inherent and inſeparable from the Crowne, and may bee levied with out parliament, that the King by his prerogative made leavie and raiſe taxes without a parliament, That the opinion of the Iudges is more validitie then an Act of Parliament and the like.

3. To Command Animate and incourage the inferior Clergie to preach altogether of the power and Prerogative of the King the weakenes and vnneceſſarines of parliaments, the ſacrednes and Power of Biſhops both Eccleſiaſticall and Civill that they are the head of the Church and not the King and ſuch like.

4. To induce the Nobillitie and great officers and Councellors of ſtate to perſwade the King that he may by force of Armes leavie taxes on his Subiects, if they refuſe to pay the ſame with out Parliament and that Acts made by a Councell of ſtate is more bindeing to the ſubiect then an act of Parliament, that the preſent neceſſitie of the King required a more ſpeedie aide then by Parliament could bee afforded and the like.

And

And this they haveing acted their tragedy in this Kingdome thus farr and by the providence and mercy of God hindred for any further Proceeding in their desperate and rash stratagems it come now to shew the causes of their distraction, the signes of their distraction and then sett downe their Mittimus to Bedlam,

1. The first cause of their distraction, I conceave was the calling of the Parliament. 12. Caroli which raised in them some distemper but it haveing not such predominance in their braines then as since their pollicy prevailed and caused the dissolution of that Parliament.

2. At the Kings goeing to the North being at Yorke divers peticions being delivered to his M jestie by the nobillitie by the Cittie of London and many Counties of this Kingdome which produced the calling of another Parliament which began 3; *Nouembris. Anno Domini.* 1641. This might bee the second cause of their distraction.

3. The quick and sudden accusing & prosecution of the Leivetennant of Ireland their Cheifest Councellor and defence, and his execution following therevpon not withstanding all their practises and plotts did Agravate some what their distemper.

4. The accusation and Impeachment of high Treason their *Primum Mobile*, the first mover and beginner of all their mischeivous designes. The Archbishop of Canterburie Aggravated more their distractiou.

5. The Parliaments proceedings against scandalous Ministers and doliugnents in the Clergie iucreased still their distemper.

6. The Parliament calling in question the proceedings of the late Convocation wherein they were cheife Agitators condemning the Cannons by them there

made

made voted the members of that Synod in a Premunire, for holding the same made them all most out of their witts.

7. The severall Charges of the Parliament against them selves perticularly of all those crimes and many more I have before mentioned voted against their sittiug in the upper house of Parliament and their vots in the same together with the daylie meet ings of the Citizens with petitions and Cryeinge against Bishops made them altogether madd.

And thus much of their causes of distraction, I come now to give you a signe or two of their ffrencie by their desperate actions since their bistemper.

1. First their obstinate opposinge the proceedings of the house of Commons against relinquents and setting Religion which had they bene well in their witts they would never have done.

2. And secondly their desperate attempt against the whole state of the Kingdom by their petition to his Majestie and protestation against them.

The Mittimus.

Whereas I am given to understand to my great greife and sorrow that the reverent Fathers in God the Lord Arch-bishop of Yorke &c. are by strange Casualities become altogeather distracted and distempered in their witts so farr as they are not to be governed by any ordinary meanes or brought again to their sences by auy Acte or perswation whatsoever which is a great disturbance and greivance to all their freinds and allyances but causeth in and about the Court great troubles and distempers requiring present prevention for feare that greater

greater inconuenience doth follow there vpon, It is thought fitt and commanded that the Masters Warders and Keepers of the Prison ordained for the entertainement of distracted and franticke persons doe take into their Custodie the persons of the said Arch-bishop of Yorke &c. and vse meanes for the restoring of them to their former vnderstanding, as shall be requisite.

Fare you well given under our hand and seale this 29. of December 1641.

FINIS.

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